vote those candidates or party who would subscribe to their charter of demands.

Helicopter-flights to Vaishnodevi contravening International Civil Aviation Organisation directions

2570. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of CVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Civil Aviation Organisation stipulates that a flight shall not commence unless available meteorological reports indicate suitable weather conditions along the route;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that there are no communication faclites, either at Katra or at Sanjhi Chhat, to make weather reports available for a helicopter flight to Vaishno Devi; if so, the reasons for which a flight was allowed on July 14 last; and

(c) whether some pilots had complained about the poor maintenance of the helicopters; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) As per ICAO standard, a flight to be conducted under Visual flight Rules shall not commence unless current meteorological report and forecasts indicate that conditions along the route will be such as to render compliance with these rules possible.

(b) There are no communication facilities at Katra and Sanjhi Chhat. About the flight on July 14th investigation is in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

Employment of Casual Labour in Railways

2571. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of casual labourers employed by different zonal railways in the country, annually;

(b) what is the amount of money paid as wages to them, per year; and

(c) in what manner it is ensured that such labourers are actually employed and no payments are made to the non-existent or bogus labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Strength of casual labour on zonal railways during the preceding three years is as under:—

1.1.1986	1.1.1987	1.1.1988
2.15 Lakhs	2.04 Lakhs	1.97 Lakhs

(Figures approximate)

(b) Information in this regard for the year 1987-88 is being collected from zonal railways and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Existing rules lay down procedure for maintenance of record of attendence preparation of muster rolls, Thumb impression register, internal checks by accounts and witnessing of payments of wages to individual workers. These are designed as safeguards against bogus payments.

Suggestion for Compensation to Victims of E.P. High Dose

2572. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a)whether voluntary Health Association of India has suggested payment of compensation to victims of E.P. high dose drugs after its use was first banned by Drugs Controller of India in 1982; and